

Today's Advertisements.

HONGKONG AND CHINA GAS CO.,
LIMITED.
NOTICE.

DURING my temporary absence from Hong-
kong Mr. W. S. HAMSEY will act as
Local Secretary to the above Company.
FRANK COLLINS.
Hongkong, 25th April, 1898. [559]

VICTORIA CHAPTER,
No. 525, E.C.

A REGULAR CONVOCATION of
the VICTORIA CHAPTER will be held at
the FAIRMANS' HALL, TONIGHT, the
25th instant, at 8 for 8.30 p.m. precisely. Vis-
iting Companions are cordially invited to attend.
Hongkong, 25th April, 1898. [554]

VOLUNTEER HEADQUARTERS.

PROMENADE CONCERT
OPEN AIR THEATRICALS

ANNUAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES,
(By Lady CARRINGTON)

ON
SATURDAY, the 30th April, 1898,
at 9 P.M.

ADMISSION.....\$1

The proceeds to be used in aid of the
Band Fund.

TICKETS at Messrs. LANE, CRAWFORD & CO'S.
Music Depot.
Hongkong, 25th April, 1898. [563]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions
to Sell by
PUBLIC AUCTION

ON
BOARD at Noon, the 9th May, 1898.

H.M.S. "VICTOR EMANUEL."

As she lies in HONGKONG HARBOUR with the
exception of Anchors, MOORING GEAR, and
BOAT and BOAT GEAR.

Length between Perpendiculars 230 ft.
Extreme Breadth 55 ft. 6 in.

Displacement 1,677 tons.

BUILT of WOOD. COPPER SHEATHED
and FASTENED, WOOD BEAMS, MAIN
MAST is of IRON, REMAINS of PUMPS and
PIPPES in the Ship are generally of COPPER
or BRASS.

A List of fittings to be Sold with the Ship may
be seen at the OFFICE of the NAVAL STORE
KEEPER and of the AUCTIONEERS.

TERMS.—Cash before delivery and the
Clearance to be effected within Seven Days after
date of the Sale.

A Launch will leave MURRAY WHARF at
11 A.M. and at 11.45 A.M., on the day of the
Sale to convey intending Purchasers.

Inspecting orders can be obtained from the
Auctioneers.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 25th April, 1898. [562]

LOST.

LOST between the OFFICERS' MESS, KOW-
LOON and the KOWLOON HOTEL a
LADY'S GOLD WATCH and CHAIN with
pendants, anyone finding same and returning
it to the KOWLOON HOTEL will be REWARDED.
Hongkong, 25th April, 1898. [564]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY,

FOR AMOY.

THE Company's Steamship

"PALINURUS,"

Captain Sawyer, will be despatched on
WEDNESDAY, the 27th instant, at 4 P.M.

For Freight, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 25th April, 1898. [565]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY,
LIMITED.

FOR TIENTSIN.

THE Company's Steamship

"KWEIYANG,"

Captain Osterbridge, will be despatched as above
on THURSDAY, the 28th instant, at 4 P.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE,
Agents.

Hongkong, 25th April, 1898. [560]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND
CALCUTTA.

THE Company's Steamship

"KUTSANG,"

Captain Bradley, will be despatched as above
on SATURDAY, the 30th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 25th April, 1898. [566]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION
COMPANY, LIMITED.

FROM CALCUTTA, PENANG AND
SINGAPORE.

THE Company's Steamship

"KUTSANG,"

having arrived from the above Ports, Consignees
of Cargo by her are hereby informed that their
Goods will be delivered from alongside.

Cargo loading the discharge or remaining on
board after Noon of the 27th inst. will be landed
at Consignees' risk and expense into Godowns
at East Point.

No Fire Insurance will be effected.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by
JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 25th April, 1898. [561]

AN APPEAL.

THE SUPERIORES OF THE ITALIAN
CONVENT, CADE ROAD, begs most
respectfully to APPEAL to the Residents of
Hongkong and the Coast Ports, for their kind
patronage and support, and desires to state that
she will be pleased to receive orders for all
kinds of NEEDLE WORK.

Gentlemen's Shirts made to order, and Collars
and Cuffs renewed on old ones.

Ladies' and Children's Under-clothing,
Children's Dresses, and all kinds of Embroidery,
Materials can be supplied, if required.

The Superiores will also be most grateful for
any PAPER, or old ENVELOPES, to be made into
Books for the Children of the Four Schools, who
are taught by the Sisters.

Hongkong, 25th April, 1898. [568]

Intimations.
DAKIN, CRICKSHANK &
COMPANY,
VICTORIA DISPENSARY,
HONGKONG.

AERATED WATERS.

SODA WATER.

LEMONADE.

GINGER ALE.

SARSAPARILLA.

RASPBERRYADE, &c.

DAKIN, CRICKSHANK & Co's WATERS are
made under the constant supervision of a duly
qualified English Chemist and will bear com-
parison with the best English Manufactures.

Special terms to HOTELS, CLUBS, MESSES and
other Large Consumers.

my compliments should be addressed to the
Manager.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1897. [530]

TAKE NOTE

IT IS UNIVERSALLY ADMITTED THAT

"O" indicates the exact use of words, no

DICTIONARY can compare with the New

Edition of

WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY.

At the office of the Hongkong Telegraph you
can see, and procure for Six Dollars, a copy
of the Webster of Webster, the latest and most
emphatic proof that Labor omnia vincit.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

WINE & SPIRITS.

ALL these are selected by our London
House, bought direct at first hand, imported in
wood and bottled by ourselves, thus saving all
intermediate profits, and enabling us to supply
the best growths at MODERATE PRICES.

PRICE LISTS, with Full Details, to be had on
Application.

PORT after removal should be rested a month
before use. When required for drinking at
once it should be ordered to be decanted at the
Dispensary before being sent out.

SHERRY.—Excellent Dinner and After Dinner
Wines of very superior Vintages. All are
true Xeres Wines.

CLARET.—Our Claret, including the lowest
priced, are guaranteed to be the genuine
product of the juice of the grape and are
not artificially made from raisins and
currants, as is generally the case with Cheap
Wines.

BRANDY.—All our Brandy is guaranteed to
be pure Cognac, the difference in price
being merely a question of age and vintage.

WHISKY.—All our Whisky is of excellent
quality and of greater age than most brands
in the market. THE SCOTCH WHISKY
marked "E" is universally popular, and is
pronounced by the best local connoisseurs
to be superior to any other brand in the
Hongkong market.

We only guarantee our Wines and Spirits to
be genuine when bought direct from us in the
Colony or from our authorized Agents at the
Coast Ports.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 8th December, 1897. [7]

The Hongkong Telegraph

HONGKONG, MONDAY, APRIL 25, 1898.

SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

On Saturday, the United States Govern-
ment declared a "pacific blockade" of
Cuba, Spain having rejected the ultima-
tum; and a Spanish merchant steamer,
the *Buena Ventura*, conveying munitions of
war to Cuba, was intercepted by the Amer-
ican fleet. Unless and until Spain adopts
forceful measures to raise the blockade,
there is no war. The British Government,
however, in its over-anxiety to avoid
alarmingly other Powers by any official
appearance of unduly favouring the United
States, has notified its opinion that "a
state of war exists;" the Acting Governor
of Hongkong consequently has no option
but to carry out his instructions and issue
the orthodox "neutrality proclamation."

First it was notified to come into effect in
six days, but to-day a fresh *Government
Gazette* Extraordinary is issued putting the
regulations into force at once.

The American fleet has consequently
been allowed to leave British waters. It is foolish,
for when France declared a pacific blockade
of China, French ships were allowed
to use of this port as if it had been
belonged to them, although their "pacific
blockade" included the bombardment of
Foochow, capture and sinking of Chinese
warships, holding the French flag in For-
mosa and the Pescadores, and annexation
of a Chinese province, Tonkin. Yet

French warships, instead of being ordered
out by the Hongkong Government, had the
full use of the Hongkong Docks to repair
damages and refit. We get no thanks for
it; the French hate us just as much, and
call us their worst enemies, and regard the
mere existence of Hongkong as a menace
to their position in Tonkin.

There is a difference between China
and Spain; Spain has friends, and so we
have to accord more consideration to her
than to China. The United States having
undertaken to cut off communication
between Spain and Cuba, we must con-
clude that Spain will forthwith proceed
to resist the blockade, which therefore
cannot be "peaceful" in reality. So, if
Britain continued to allow the United
States all the privileges of peace, Spain
would claim damages, and there would be
an opening for another of those disastrous
arbitration cases by which Britain is
usually victimised. China might have
done the same in 1884, but China did not
then have such powerful protectors as she
has now. Both Russia and France were
fighting her and plundering her in the
seventies and eighties, and now they are
"as thick as thieves."

So Commodore Dewey sent out some
of his ships yesterday and the re-
mainder this morning, to Mira Bay. The
fleet is just as well there as here, so it
does not much matter whether the British
authorities were right or not in sending
him away. In fact, he could have simply
anchored in Kowloon Bay, where there is
ample room for a large fleet, outside of
British waters, and within easy reach
of Pedder's Wharf. But it is likely
enough Commodore Dewey thinks that
Kowloon Bay is British, for we notice in
the *Boundling Billow*, a small occasional
publication got up on the U.S. flag-
ship, a statement that—

The portion of Kowloon belonging to
the British extends the entire length of the province,
a distance of twenty-six miles. The harbour
is defended by fortifications on all the surround-
ing heights, armed with cannon and mortars,
and commanding the entire harbour approach.

That is just what it is not, and the
American fleet need not have gone to the
trouble and inconvenience of moving to
Mira Bay, when nearly half of this
harbour is Chinese water. It will no
doubt surprise the Americans to learn
this; it must surprise everybody, to think
such things could be. The British
are so quixotically unwilling to annex
anything, that they leave untaken what
nobody else would ever dream of leaving.

Strangers seeing the position take it for
granted that the hills overlooking Hong-
kong harbour are dotted with British
forts. "Oh, of course, they must be; no
need to ask, for nobody could be so mad
as to leave hills like that unoccupied." Well,
we can. We do. There is no fear of insanity
beyond the power of the British Governments
when it comes to leaving things alone. It is all
for the sake of avoiding abuse from other nations
for land-grabbing. Is it? Well, how much
effect has it? We are called land-
grabbers just the same, even when we
allow our harbour, our only naval
station in the Far East, to be dominated
from hills round it! Commodore Dewey,
from where he is, could take a chart, a
compass, and a big gun, and sink the *Im-
mortalist* at her moorings. He is our friend;
how if he had been our foe? How if the
Ranfa, *Kurik*, and a few others were
where the *Baltimore* and *Olympia* now are?
We cannot see them, nor are they marked
on a chart; but they could locate each
vital spot, torpedo depot, coal godowns,
docks, arsenal, barracks, magazine—and
wreck them before we could even find out
where the enemy was!

The American fleet is to await orders
in Mira Bay. It may remain there until
the trouble with Spain is over, for there
would really be little or nothing to gain
by going to Manila. The only reason
there could be for operations against the
Philippines would be if Spain continues to
make effective resistance—which at pre-
sent seems very unlikely.

A rumour got about town to-day that
Spanish torpedo-boats came into the har-
bour on Friday night, prowled round,
and went out again. The fact is that
on that night the British torpedo-boats
were exercising. We believe there are
no Spanish torpedo-boats in the Far
East.

It is reported that there have been
desertions from the American fleet. We
have made inquiries, and find that of all
the vessels under Commodore Dewey's
command—*Olympia*, *Baltimore*, *Dan-
forth*, *Raleigh*, *Concord*, *Perth*, *McCallister*, *Nashua*,
and *Zafiro*, only nine men have left; of
these, six are Chinese, one Italian, one
German, and one named Nolan, of mixed
parentage, "a man without a country." All
the Americans are keen on fighting; but
we feel sure they will be disappointed.

THE SHIPPING CONFERENCE.

At the annual meeting of the Peninsular
and Oriental Company the Chairman, in
his address to the shareholders, delivered
a long lecture on the subject of freight
"pools," such as the Shipping Conference,
headed by his Company, which exercises
great power over the trade between
Europe and the Far East. The words of
such an eminent man, speaking in public
on a matter of such great public interest—
even of vital national interest—carried
great weight. In our humble opinion what
he said was quite wrong, and we consid-
ered it our duty to say so, for the Empire
cannot afford to have such grave issues
misrepresented. If it had been only our
own opinion, we would frankly and freely

recognise—as any impartial outsider
would—that we might be entirely wrong
and the Chairman entirely right; but it
is not our own opinion only. We were
taken to task somewhat severely and
challenged to prove our point, and we
were assured that it could be com-
pletely disproved. We did our best at
the time to set out the case, for the other
side to answer, but there has been no
answer. Since then we have been hard
at work collecting data so as to give
chapter and verse. Now, therefore, we
present the conference ship-owners with
a statement of the case, and respectfully
request the courtesy of a reply before we
proceed further, for we are resolved
to fight this out to the end, not in any
spirit of enmity to anybody but solely in
what we conceive (without refusing to
recognise the possibility that our concep-
tion may be wrong) to be the interests of
Hongkong, of Far Eastern commerce,
and of the British Empire as a whole in
the ever-intensifying struggle for com-
mercial supremacy.

In 1894, the Secretary of State for India
received a petition from Bombay mer-
chants, stating—

"That the Peninsular and Oriental Steam
Navigation Company, overlooking the obvious
interests of Government for the interests and
welfare of those whose taxes contribute to the
company's prosperity, seeks its own further
aggrandisement by keeping the trade wherever
it has to deal with weak opponents. It uses
the great leverage of State patronage in
either buying out or killing off legitimate
competition, and thus acquiring to itself the rights
of levying monopoly rates in such parts of the
Empire as require especially the greatest incite-
ment to, and encouragement and development
of, enterprise. It can afford to pay subsidies to
Foreign Navigation Associations, retain them,
as it were, in its service, and form a league
against the general trade of a foreign com-
petitor. While the Company has been and is con-
tinuing to do this, it has been able to confer
with an income of only fifteen shillings per
ton of cargo for an average round voyage of twelve
weeks from England to India and back after
paying Suez Canal dues of ten shillings on gross
tonnage both ways, it used, until recently, to
squeeze out of Indian commerce twenty six
rupees (equal to at least thirty shillings) per ton of
cargo for an average voyage of nine weeks from
India to Hongkong and back. The sole reason
for this exorbitant excess was that, while the
Company dared not or could not buy out or kill
off the great competition and enterprise between
England and India, it found it easy enough and
did not scruple to do so between India and
China. Before the days of steam navigation,
many an enterprising Indian merchant owned
ships of his own and carried on commerce with
the farther east. But since this sick Com-
pany came into the field, backed by a
Government subsidy, the Indian owners had
to make way for it. This Company, to
show properly the taxpayers of India
why they should have contributed, has de-
voted all its legitimate competition from time
to time either by reducing rates to so low a limit
as to exhaust the resources of its unaided rivals
or, failing in that respect, taking such powerful
rivals into partnership. * * * It has established
a system of favoritism or partiality by giving
out publicly that it would carry, at such favor-
able rates, cargo of only those shippers who will
not do business with any rival shipowner, thus
preventing the duty of state-subsidised com-
petitors. * * * Your memorialists feel confident
that the Government will not approve that any
part of the revenues of India should be employed
for thwarting the interests of the contributors
of those revenues, nor that a Company, appor-
tioned by State aid, should favour the interests
of certain parties to the detriment of those of
others. Your memorialists feel that the
Government could hardly use any legal
pressure to bring the Company to a right
sense of its duties. But they believe that moral
force may be used, as the Government has a
right to do, in a matter of this kind where the
interests of so many of its subjects are concerned.
Your memorialists do not doubt that a re-
monstrance from you to the Directors of the
Company will have a wholesome effect."

The Bombay merchants managed to
get a line of their own steamers running
in conjunction with the Japanese Imperial
Steamship Company's ships; freights were
reduced and the export of cotton from
Bombay to Japan went up by leaps and
bounds. But the P. & O., with its large
capital, many allies, small conscience and
few Imperial impulses, declared war to the
knife, and of course, came out triumphant.
The TATA steamers were stopped, the TATA
money melted away, and the Imperial
Japanese Mail Line, unsurpassable be-
cause it is Imperial, was welcomed into the
unholy alliance, freights went up
again, and Bombay cotton spinners were
worse off than they were before. The
Chairman of the P. & O. Company was
loudly applauded when he said "This
Company has really done a great deal,
and made great sacrifices for the sake of
British trade." If "charity covers a mul-
titude of faults," big dividends cover a
multitude of mis-statements.

(To be continued.)

TELEGRAMS.

THE "MAILED FIST" PILGRIMAGE.

THE LAST LAP.

PARADELL TO THE COMFORTS OF
CIVILIZATION.

SHANGHAI, April 25th.

Prince Henry of Prussia left Shanghai
this morning for Kiaochow. He tho-
roughly enjoyed himself here.

REUTER'S MESSAGES.

THE BUDGET.

LONDON, April 22nd.

Sir Michael Hicks Beach has introduced his
budget. The surplus for the past year amounts
to £3,678,000. The budget abates the tax on
incomes between £400 and £700; and reduces
the duty on tobacco by sixpence per pound but
not on cigars.

SPAIN AND THE UNITED STATES.

A squadron had left Key West to blockade
Havana. The U.S. troops will cooperate when
summoned.

PLAQUE STATISTICS.

During the 24 hours up to noon, 21st April,
27 new cases and 20 deaths from plague were
reported, making the total since 1st January (112
days) 562 cases and 485 deaths.

During the 24 hours up to noon, 23rd April,
21 new cases and 17 deaths from plague were
reported, making the total since 1st January
(114 days) 583 cases and 502 deaths.

During the 24 hours up to noon, 24th April,
26 new cases and 26 deaths from plague were re-
ported, making the total since 1st January (114
days) 609 cases and 528 deaths.

The returns for the week ended 23rd April,
are 227 cases and 109 deaths, as against 97 cases
and 93 deaths the previous week.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

THE postponed Volunteer Promenade Concert
will be held on Saturday, 30th inst.

THE text of the treaty between Great Britain and
Emperor Menelik is published in the *Gazette*.

MR. STICKNEY, a correspondent for some Amer-
ican papers, left here this morning by the
Olympia, the U.S. flagship.

FOX FOX tried his skill at picking a woman's
pocket. He was caught in the act and he goes
in for fourteen days' hard labour.

THE return of the number of visitors to the City
Hall Museum for the week ended April 24th
are—Europeans, 220; Chinese, 2,148; total
2,368.

RESPECTING the arrest of seamen deserters in
the case of Japan, Section 238 of "The Merchant
Shipping Act, 1894" has been applied by order
of the Queen.

THE Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public
Works) has been appointed a member of the
Executive Council during the absence of Hon.
H. E. Wodehouse, C.M.G.

A SHIPMENT of Hongkong oranges which reached
Sydney per *Changin* last month were com-
demned by the Government inspectors as they
were all covered with scale.

CAPT. HASTINGS has been appointed Chairman
of the Commission for the purpose of enquiring
into the deleterious liquor question on the
resignation of Hon. H. E. Wodehouse.

FOX unlawfully selling opium Pan U was to-day
fined \$50 or two months' hard labour. Man
Wing had 300 taels of the drug on board the
steamer *Hansa* and he was fined \$500 or else
go to jail for three months.

A LETTER box has been placed on board
the Steam-launch *Preservance*, running be-
tween Hongkong and Macao. Letters prepaid
with Hongkong stamps posted in this box will
be treated as paid by the Macao Post Office.

A CHINAMAN who had been "inducing simple
folk to give him \$5 and lesser sums so that their
cockles, cabbages, &c., should not be infested
with worms" was prosecuted by P.C. Hogarth and Capt.
Hastings gave him six weeks, without "the
option."

THE Navy League has, says a home paper,
received the following telegram from its Hong-
kong branch:—"Regarding Curzon's statement
nothing is being done to fortify south side of
Island. Erection of forts here and increase of
garrison urgently required." Another Hongkong
wire says "From north to south alike we are
defenceless."

SOME days ago we mentioned the fact that a
child, apparently suffering from hydrocephalus,
was being made an exhibition of on the Rackman-
tion in the vicinity of Messrs. Lane Crawford
& Co's store. The show, to say the least, is
hard to believe that a child "suffering from a
disease of this description" will have either his
bodily or mental state improved by being made
the target for the jokes and vulgar curiosity of a
crowd for several hours a day. In England
there is a Society for the Prevention of Cruelty
to Children, and even here, we have an
organization which styles itself the Benevolent
Society and we are of opinion that it is the duty
of the society in question to prevent the further
exhibition of the child by appealing to the
authorities to stop it on the ground of cruelty.
Of course the police should have taken action in
the matter long ago, for they must be aware of
the show being held, or at least ought to be, but
as they appear to be of opinion that Chinese
children need no protection, we now appeal to
the Benevolent Society for the placing of the
child in an asylum of some sort would be an act
of charity and rescue it from a life that cannot
be anything but torture.

THE following conditions subject to which
persons suffering from bubonic plague will be
permitted to leave the colony, are published in
the *Gazette*—Any person suffering from
bubonic plague who wishes to leave the Colony
may embark between the hours of 6 a.m. and 6
p.m. at a wharf to be erected off the new Rackman-
tion in front of Robb's Strand West, subject to
the following conditions:—(1) The patient or
his friend shall notify the patient's name and
address or addresses at which he has been

